United Nations A/58/7/Add.21

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session
Agenda items 117 (b) and 121

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.78

Twenty-second report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/58/25) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.78, concerning the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities. During its consideration of the matter, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.

2. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the statement, under the terms of paragraphs 3 and 6 of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.78, the General Assembly would endorse the Ad Hoc Committee's decision to establish a Working Group, with the aim of preparing and presenting a draft text that would be the basis for negotiations on the draft convention in the Ad Hoc Committee, taking into account all contributions, and would decide also that the Ad Hoc Committee should hold, within existing resources, two sessions in 2004, each of a duration of 10 working days, prior to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

3. Activities related to the implementation of the request are described in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the statement of the Secretary-General. Paragraph 5 of the statement contains information on the resource requirements. The Secretary-General estimates that the costs for conference services for the Working Group of the Ad

03-64475 (E) 081203

Hoc Committee and the additional session of the Ad Hoc Committee would amount to $763,500, at full cost. This would represent additional requirements over and above the resources proposed under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services ($734,100), and section 29D, Office of Central Support Services ($29,400), of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

4. The Advisory Committee notes that, in paragraph 7 of the statement, it is indicated that the potential for absorption of the above requirements, within the existing capacities for conference servicing and documentation, would be reviewed within the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates falling under the guidelines for the contingency fund. The Committee points out that, in accordance with the current practice for the preparation of statements of programme budget implications, the potential for absorption of the above requirements should have been reviewed in the context of the statement of programme budget implications in document A/C.5/58/25.

5. **With regard to the proposed action requested in paragraph 8 of the statement, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.78, additional requirements of up to $763,500 would arise and would need to be considered for appropriation in the context of the review of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and the revised estimates falling under the guidelines for the contingency fund, scheduled to be undertaken towards the end of the first part of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly.**